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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

MARY FRANCES REPKO, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR
ADAM TOMLINSON. REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

October 5, 2021

The Honorable Michael Regan Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1301 Constitution Ave. NW Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

Thank you for your leadership at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. I am writing to request your approval to retain Laura Gentile from Office of Policy to assist my staff on the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW).

Laura is currently a Brookings Fellow with the Committee and her fellowship ends in December 2021. As the authorizing committee for EPA programs, EPW wrestles daily with countless EPA-related questions and issues, and it is critical that my office be able to provide immediate analysis and responses with the assistance of an EPA detailee. Laura's continued presence in our office will help especially as we anticipate much interaction and collaboration with EPA on a host of issues—especially related to water and toxics—in the next Congress.

During her detail, Laura's broad knowledge of agency programs, technical expertise, political acumen, and ability to come up to speed quickly on new issues has led to her becoming a valued member of our professional staff. As the year has unfolded, her range of responsibilities has continued to expand. She has provided support on multiple issues, including nutrient pollution, drinking water, wastewater, water cybersecurity, environmental justice, NEPA, nomination hearings and, in particular, PFAS and toxics. Most notably, she has been critical to our efforts to organize PFAS-focused hearings and respond to a suite of Clean Water Act and TSCA initiatives and legal challenges.

I am asking that she be detailed to us for the first session of the 118th Congress, through at least December 2022. In the coming months, Laura will continue to play an important role in the drafting of related legislation, based upon continuing conversations with EPA, states, and a variety of stakeholders, while contributing further to this effort by serving as a bridge with the agency. Your assistance in providing staff support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this request.

With best personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas R. Cyrper

Chairman

cc: Vikki Arroyo, Associate Administrator, Office of Policy
William Niebling, Associate Administrator, Office of Congressional and
Intergovernmental Relations

Radha Adhar, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations